



Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

New Information in Blue Text

Event Name	22-0009 Wildfire Outbreak 17MAR
Date	April 01, 2022
Time	9:00 AM
Operational Period	8:00 AM March 31 to 8:00 AM April 01, 2022
Report Number	15

Regions Affected

TDEM Regions Affected	1, 3, 4, 5 & 6
DDCs Active	1, 4A, 5, 6, 7, 19 & 20

STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION: The Texas State Operations Center has again, activated for continued wildfire response operations, Monday, 28 March, 2022 at 8:00 AM. [Texas A&M Forest Service \(TAMFS\)](#) received two new requests for assistance with fire suppression operations on Thursday. There are currently 150 Texas counties out of 254 with a Burn Ban in effect. Elevated fire weather conditions are forecasted for much of Far West Texas, West Texas, Rolling Plains, Texas Panhandle and West Central Texas today. Dry thunderstorms are also forecasted for the Western Rolling Plains and Texas Panhandle today.

On March 29, Governor Abbott encouraged Texans to remain vigilant and informed on weather conditions as fire danger and severe weather threaten the state. Significant portions of the western half of Texas are facing extreme fire weather conditions today and tomorrow due to high wind gusts, dry fuels, and low humidity. Primary areas of concern today for fires are the Panhandle, South Plains, and West Texas, with the risk shifting to much of the southern half of the state tomorrow. ([Complete Statement Here](#))

On March 27, Governor Abbott amended the Disaster Declaration, adding Medina County.

On March 21, Governor Abbott amended the Disaster Declaration, adding Blanco, Erath, Hood, Runnels, and Starr counties.

On March 18, Governor Abbott issued a Disaster Declaration due to an imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property in Brooks, Brown, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, Grayson, Mason, Potter, Randall, and Williamson Counties.

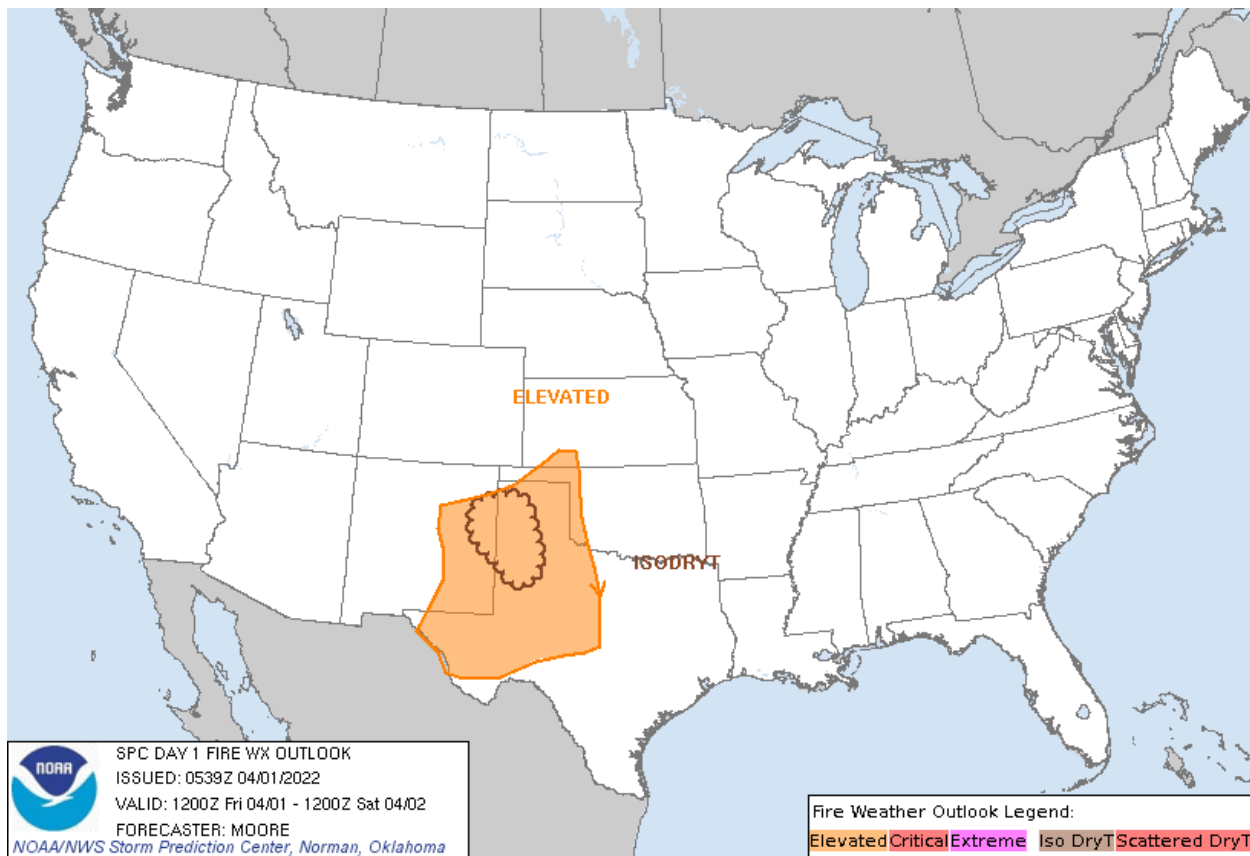
On March 16, Governor Abbott directed the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) to activate additional state resources as escalated fire weather conditions continue to impact the state this week. In addition, the Texas State Emergency Operations Center (SOC) is increasing readiness to Level II: Escalated Response for Critical Fire Weather Conditions. Representatives from key state agencies belonging to the Emergency Management Council reported to the SOC on Thursday, March 17 at 7:00 AM CT to assist in the state's response to fire weather conditions.

On March 15, Governor Abbott directed TDEM to mobilize state resources as Texas faces increased fire weather conditions this week. The National Weather Service warns high winds and low relative humidity has created heightened risk for wildfires in the western half of the state.

Access damage surveys, find an evacuation shelter, and view wildfire resources
Visit our March Wildfires Disaster page for more information:
<https://www.tdem.texas.gov/disasters/2022-march-wildfires>

WEATHER:

NWS Fire Weather Outlook Valid: 6AM 4/1 to 6AM 4/2.



Day 1 Fire Weather Outlook: Fire weather concerns are expected this afternoon across parts of the southern High Plains, including the potential for isolated dry thunderstorms. Early-morning water vapor imagery reveals a somewhat diffuse upper-level disturbance over the central Rockies. This feature is expected to shift to the east/southeast through the day and slightly deepen amid modest mid-level cold advection associated with an approaching cold front (noted in recent 700 mb analyses). Very modest surface pressure falls are noted across east CO, but lee cyclogenesis should become more pronounced through the day as the upper wave ejects into the Plains.

...Southeast NM and southwest TX...

Both surface observations and 00Z soundings show a very dry air mass in place across southwest TX/southeast NM this morning (dewpoint values near the 10% percentile for early April). This air mass will be reinforced by downslope warming/drying via increasing westerly winds by early afternoon as a dryline tightens to the east across west TX. Wind speeds between 15-20 mph will be common with frequent gusts up to 25-30 mph possible. RH values are forecast to fall into the low to mid-teens, which should support widespread elevated to locally

critical fire weather conditions. Fuels across the region remain receptive, denoted by fire activity in recent days, and will support a widespread fire weather concern. Confidence in the duration and coverage of this threat diminishes with northward extent into east-central NM where increasing cloud cover, scattered showers, and recent precipitation may limit the fire weather potential (despite higher probability of sustained 20 mph winds).

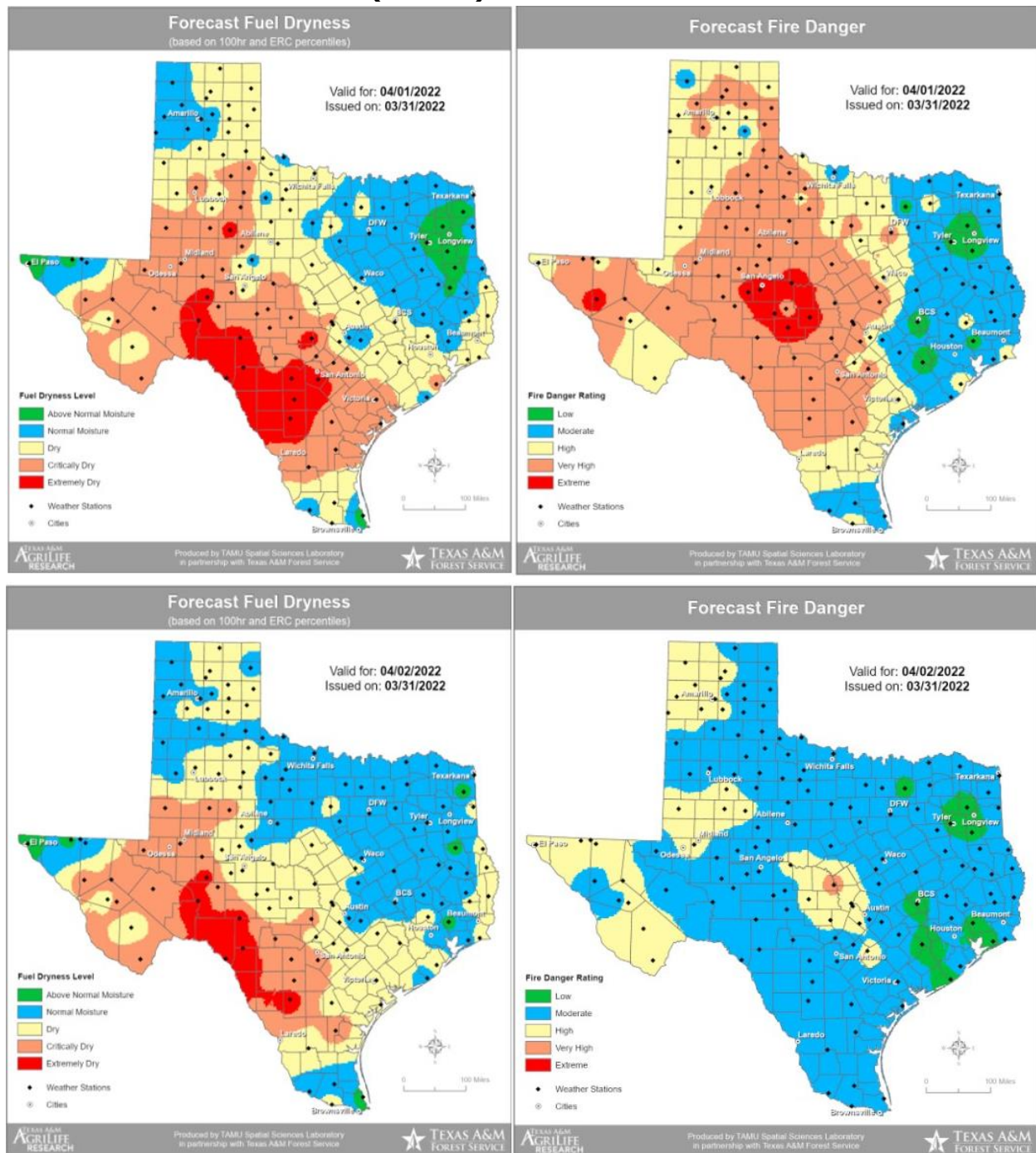
...West-Central Texas into northwest OK and southwest KS...

Fire weather concerns are also possible to the east of the dryline this afternoon but may be more conditional on the quality of moisture return through the day. Early morning surface observations show dewpoints in the 50s already in place across south TX. However, the 00Z CRP sounding suggests this moisture resides in a rather shallow boundary layer. As south to southeasterly winds increase through the day this moisture will advect northwestward into west-central TX and parts of western OK. Daytime mixing should mitigate the effects of this moisture return to a degree, but confidence in exact RH reductions is somewhat low. Nonetheless, increasing flow near 850 mb ahead of the approaching wave/deepening trough will support widespread sustained winds near 20 mph with gusts up to 30-35 mph possible. Given the strong winds and receptive fuels, fire weather concerns are expected despite more marginal RH reductions. The duration of this threat may be limited for the eastern TX Panhandle, western OK, and southwest KS due to developing showers/thunderstorms in the mid to late afternoon hours.

...Dry Thunderstorms...

00Z soundings under the upper-level disturbance show cold temperatures aloft and ample mid-level moisture. This thermodynamic environment will advect to the east/southeast over the next 24 hours. The combination of cool, moist conditions atop a warm, dry boundary layer will support sufficient instability for isolated to scattered thunderstorms this afternoon from eastern NM into the TX Panhandle. Although the dry sub-cloud layer may be somewhat shallow (around 2 km deep), fast storm motions may limit rainfall amounts for any one location and support an isolated dry thunderstorm threat.

Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS) – Predictive Services:



OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES:

1. Protect life and property.
2. Support rapid & effective response and recovery operations.

3. Collect and disseminate accurate incident information to improve decision-making.
4. Accurately track incident costs associated with assigned resources for cost recovery.

Region 1 (Includes DDCs 4 Garland, 4 Hurst, 5, 6, and 22)

DDC 4 – Hurst (Includes: Denton, Erath, Hood, Johnson, Palo Pinto, Parker, Somervell, Tarrant, and Wise Counties).

DDC 4A Hurst raised their readiness level to Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions).

DDC 5 – Mt. Pleasant (Includes: Bowie, Cass, Delta, Franklin, Hopkins, Lamar, Morris, Red River, and Titus Counties)

DDC 5 increased their readiness level to Level III (Increased Readiness Level).

DDC 6 – Tyler (Includes: Anderson, Camp, Cherokee, Gregg, Harrison, Henderson, Marion, Panola, Rains, Rusk, Smith, Upshur, Van Zandt, and Wood Counties)

Rusk County: [Rusk 1518: 1 acre – 100% contained.](#)

Region 3 (Includes DDCs 19, 20, 21, and 24)

DDC 19 – Laredo (Includes: Jim Hogg, Starr, Webb, and Zapata Counties)

DDC 19 increased their readiness level to Level III (Increased Readiness Level).

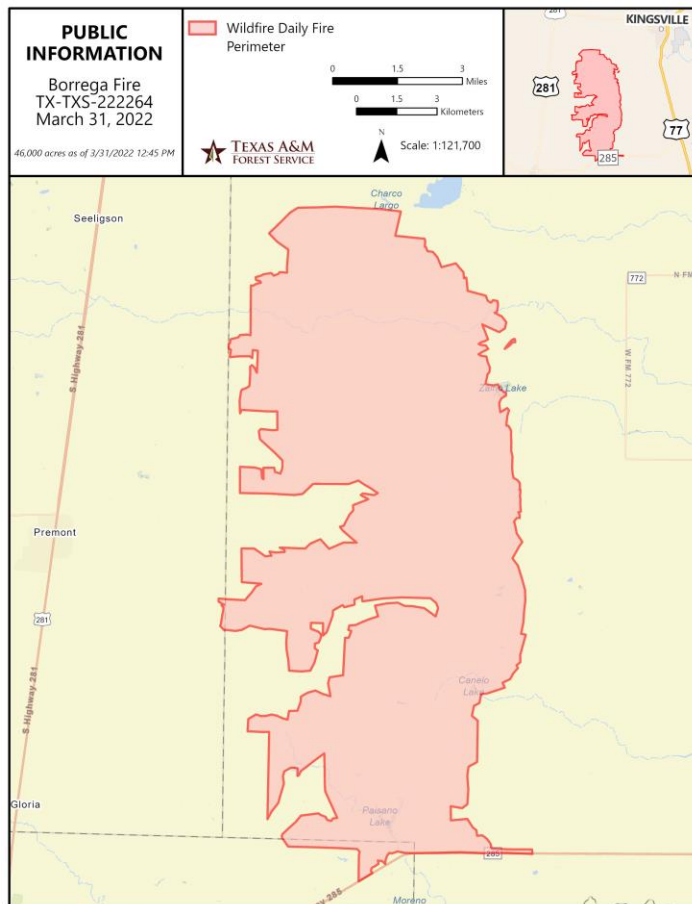
Starr County: [Pinto Two: 315 acres – 100% contained.](#)

DDC 20 – Corpus Christi (Includes: Aransas, Bee, Brooks, Duval, Jim Wells, Kenedy, Kleberg, Live Oak, Nueces, Refugio, and San Patricio Counties)

DDC 20 increased their readiness level to Level III (Increased Readiness Level).

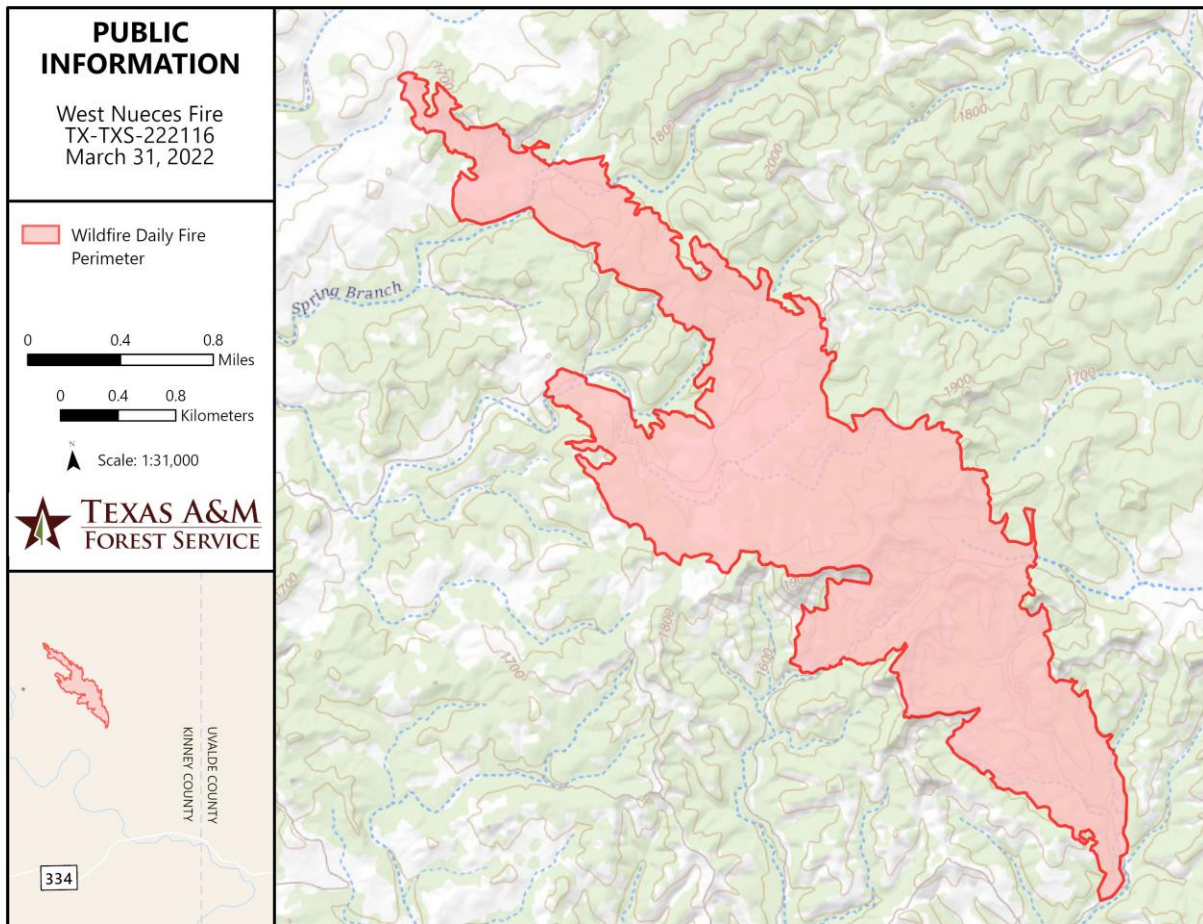
Brooks County: [Vib: 9,424 acres – 100% contained.](#)

Kleberg County: [Borrega: 46,000 acres – 50% contained.](#) Voluntary Evacuation issued by County Judge Madrid for West sides of Ricardo and Riviera. TxDOT closed SH 285 between US 281 and US 77.



DDC 24 – Del Rio (Includes: Dimmit, Edwards, Kinney, La Salle, Maverick, Real, Uvalde, Val Verde, and Zavala Counties)

Kinney County: West Nueces: 1,750 acres – 95% contained.



La Salle County: Los Angeles: 5,960 acres - 100% contained.

Region 4 (Includes DDCs 8, 9, and 10)

DDC 8 – El Paso (Includes: Brewster, Culberson, El Paso, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, Presidio Counties)

Jeff Davis County: Nunn: 1,121 acres – 100% contained.

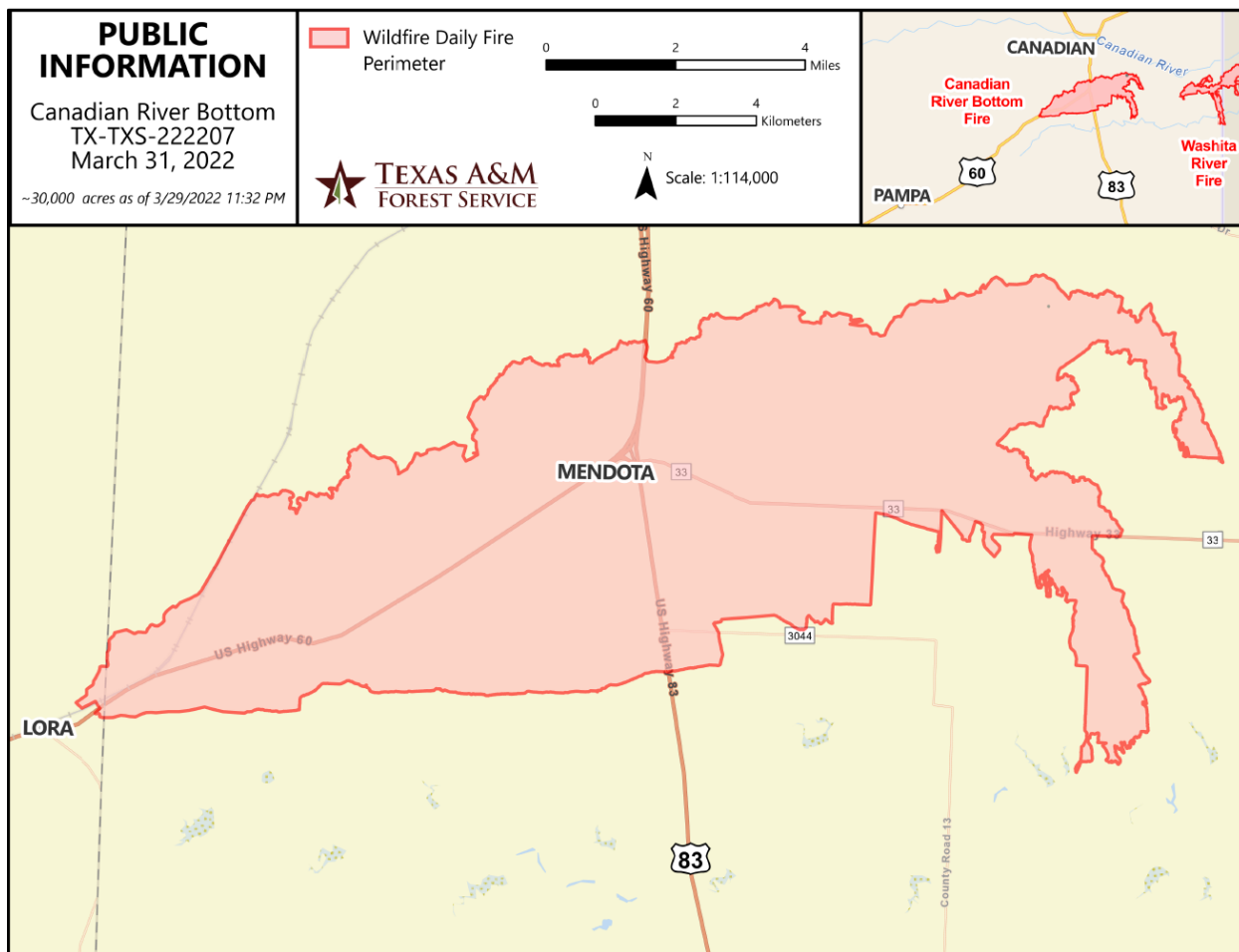
Region 5 (Includes DDCs 1, 2, 3, and 7)

DDC 1 – Amarillo (Includes: Armstrong, Briscoe, Carson, Castro, Childress, Collingsworth, Dallam, Deaf Smith, Donley, Gray, Hall, Hansford, Hartley, Hemphill, Hutchinson, Lipscomb, Moore, Ochiltree, Oldham, Parmer, Potter, Randall, Roberts, Sherman, Swisher, and Wheeler Counties)

DDC 1 Amarillo activated to Level III at 10:00 AM on March 28.

Gray County: Double Barrel: 984 acres – 85% contained.

Roberts County: Canadian River Bottom: 39,568 acres – 55% contained.



DDC 7 – Abilene (Includes: Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, Fisher, Haskell, Jones, Kent, Knox, Mitchell, Nolan, Runnels, Scurry, Shackelford, Stephens, Stonewall, Throckmorton, and Taylor Counties). DDC 7 remains at Readiness Level II (Escalated Response Conditions) for wildfire activities.

Brown County: Ramsey: 3,456 acres – 90% contained.

Region 6 (Includes DDCs 11, 12, 17, 18A, 18B, and 23)

DDC 11 – Waco (Includes: Bosque, Falls, Freestone, Hill, Limestone and McLennan Counties)

Bosque County: Bosque River: 700 acres – 100% contained.

DDC 17 – Victoria (Includes: Calhoun, DeWitt, Goliad, Gonzales, Lavaca, Jackson and Victoria Counties)

Gonzales County: Roper: 180 acres – 100% contained.

DDC 18 – San Antonio (Includes: Bandera, Comal, Frio, Gillespie, Guadalupe, Kendall, Kerr, and Medina Counties)

Medina County: Das Goat: 1,092 acres – 95% contained.

DDC 23 – Killeen (Includes: Bell, Coryell, Hamilton, Lampasas, Milam, Mills and San Saba Counties)

Coryell County: Crittenburg Complex – 33,175 acres – 85% contained.

RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS

Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) – Regional staff have been deployed to impacted areas to assist local officials in damage assessment and identification of needs. The SOC continues to facilitate information sharing and the coordination of response and recovery operations.

TDEM Communications Coordination Group (CCG): ESF 2 is assessing possible requirements to support Eastland County and other areas heavily impacted by the wildfires. Communications platforms are being identified for possible support if required.

TDEM Disaster Recovery Task Force (DRTF): DRTF HQ staff continue to support mass care at the SOC and actively monitoring the weather situation. DRTF regional staff continue to support local jurisdictions affected by wildfires/ severe weather with damage assessments and organizing VOAD support.

TDEM Mass Care: State partners are supporting local jurisdictions from the wildfires and severe weather. Partners are ready to respond to support local jurisdiction with staff and materials pre-positioned around the state. Actively

monitoring the weather situation and are prepared with national resources if needed. Overnight there were two shelters, one with population of seven in Medina County.

TDEM State Voluntary Agency Liaison (VAL): Disaster non-profits and Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters are actively deployed and supporting jurisdictions from this severe weather event in TDEM Regions 1, 2, 5 and 6. Activities for this event to include but not limited to disaster cleanup, heavy equipment and chainsaw teams, supply distribution, feeding and sheltering operations, emotional and spiritual care for communities and first responders, technology support, donations, and volunteer management. Planning meetings between local jurisdictions and disaster nonprofits for establishing Multi Agency Resource Centers are ongoing.

Texas Emergency Management Assistance Team (TEMAT):

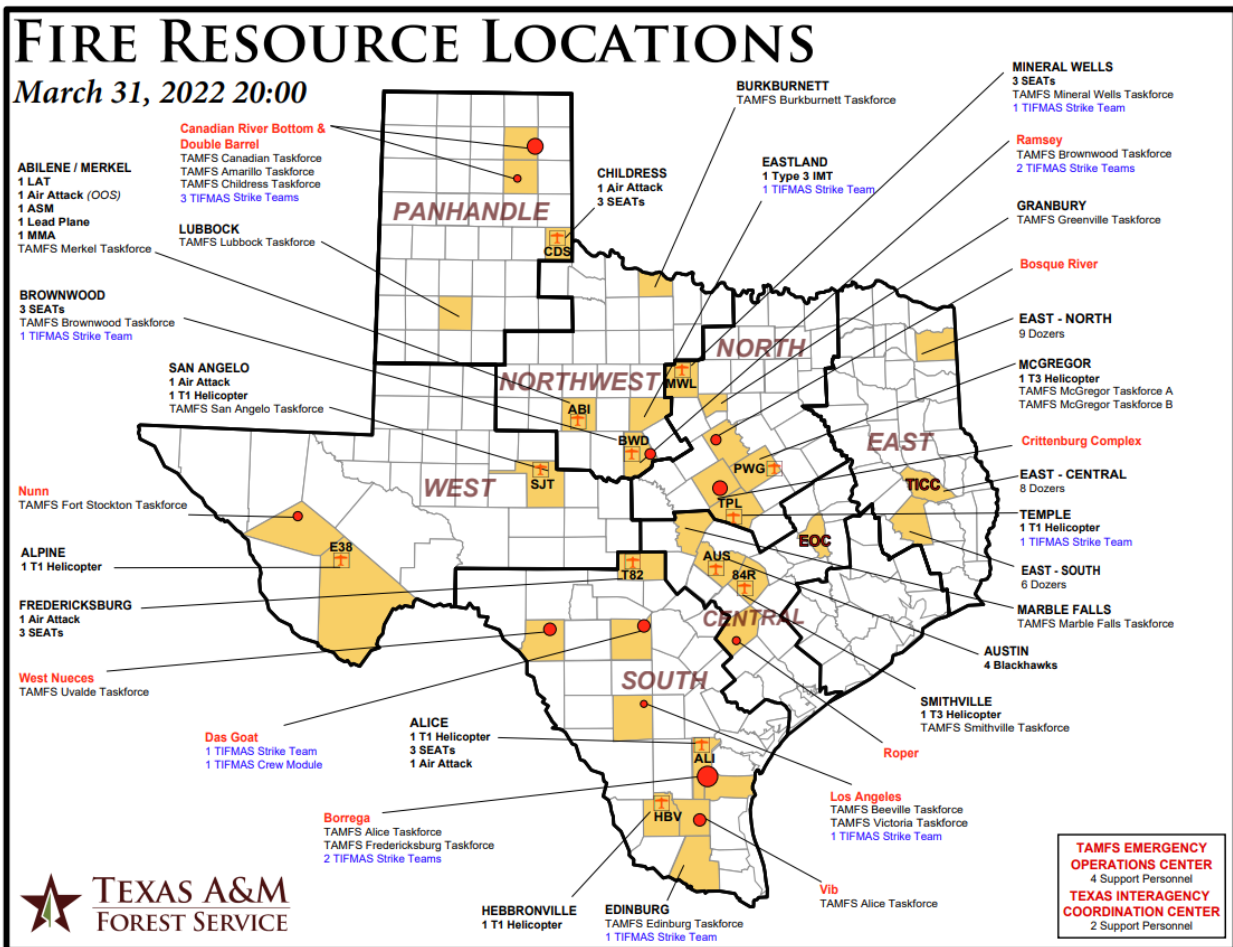
The DRTF HQ staff continue to support mass care at the SOC and actively monitoring the weather situation. DRTF regional staff continue to support local jurisdictions affected by wildfires/severe weather with damage assessments and organizing VOAD support.

Shelters: None Reported

Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service (Agrilife): [Agrilife continues to maintain situational awareness of wildfire incidents across the state and is monitoring needs at Animal Supply Points in the Eastland area.](#)

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX)/Texas A&M Public Works Response Team (TX-PWRT): One TEEX/TX-PWRT personnel managing ESF 3 Public Works and Engineering at the Remote SOC in Austin.

Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS): TAMFS 10 new requests for wildfires on Tuesday. Crews plan to staff eight (8) fires today, five (5) of which are carry over fires. Incident Updates can be found here: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/>. [TAMFS received two requests for wildfires, March 31.](#)



Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD): TPWD has been tasked to provide two firefighting brush trucks. Game wardens have been requested to assist with evacuations in Medina County as a wildfire continues to burn in that area. The fire has been burning since last night and the winds today have made it much more challenging for fire fighters as the fire continues to build and spread toward a residential area.

Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC): The PUC continues to provide a liaison to the SOC and is monitoring for any outages or other issues with electricity providers. Tuesday, in cooperation with TDEM, we coordinated a call between TDEM, the PUC, electricity providers, and the leadership of the counties expected to see wind gusts in excess of 50 MPH. The call served to ensure that local leadership has easy access to communication with their local electric providers. As of 3:00 PM, there are no outages or other issues to report. Overnight, and throughout March 30, local damages to power infrastructure remained generally manageable as

restorations have quickly been enacted to reported outages throughout the state. Outages remained under 30,000 overnight, peaking near 29,000 in the late morning. As of 3:00 PM, the PUC is not tracking significant reported outages or generation issues. [The PUC is responding to three fires east of Corpus Christi. Have identified 18 poles down in the Borrega pasture and have patrolled 75% of the feeder. The fire is still burning. Have identified six poles down in the Encino pasture and have patrolled 100% of the feeder. Restoring service where practical behind the fire\(s\).](#)

Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC): The RRC will continue to work with natural gas service providers throughout this event. No new natural gas service interruptions have been reported to the RRC at this time. RRC will continue to support ESF 12 and work with PUC.

Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC): TAHC continues to maintain situational awareness and will respond appropriately to any requests for assistance as they are received. No new STARS received, and all ESF-11 STARS have been filled.

Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA): TDA continues to staff the Remote SOC as needed as part of the ESF-11 Team. The Hay Hotline is on hold but ready as needed to take hay donation calls or requests. Working with TAHC and AgriLife on livestock needs. STAR Funds accepting donations and requests for financial assistance. Emergency Management Team and Field Staff on alert to assist when and where needed.

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ): TCEQ has staff available to assist local governments with any air/water/waste related issues including drinking water/wastewater issues and/or emergency response activities.

Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) – Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF): [DSHS EMTF medical resources to the Eastland Complex wildfires were released with expected date for demobilization of April 1. DSHS EMTF continues to support the Canadian River Bottom fire with \[1\] \(WLF\) PKG, and \[1\] REM \(ETFs 1, 2, and 11\). DSHS EMTF has activated \[1\] \(WLF\) PKG to support the Borrega fire.](#)

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT): TxDOT stands ready to support request through the STAR process. Fuel Support is being provided to the fire in Real County and the Canadian River Bottom Fire in Hemphill County. TxDOT is providing

a water tender and staff for the Burr Ranch Fire in Kinney County. TxDOT is staffing the remote SOC.

Texas Department of Public Safety (TXDPS): The TXDPS has ensured the readiness of statewide resources to appropriately respond to this fire outbreak and weather event. Texas Highway Patrol (THP) troopers and other DPS personnel are fully prepared to respond as conditions dictate. Affected THP Disaster District Chairs are communicating with applicable state and local officials as needed. DPS Troopers and other agency personnel are providing support to applicable affected areas as requested. Region 6 THP San Antonio is providing personnel in Medina County to conduct roving patrol in the multiple subdivisions that were evacuated. Assisting with reentry by residents for the purpose of escorted damage assessment. Region 5 THP Eastland is providing security at the RSA in Eastland. THP personnel also providing roving/patrol security in Carbon.

Texas Military Department (TMD): TMD will support Texas A&M Forest Service in suppressing wildland fires in Texas. TMD has activated 2 Medium Rotary Wing MRP to provide direct support to TFS with fire suppression capability in response to critical fire weather. TMD has activated 28 personnel and 4 aircraft in support of 22-0009 Wildfire Outbreak 17MAR. [On March 31, \(2\) UH-60 Blackhawks flew 16 hours and dropped 112 buckets for 73,920 gallons.](#)

Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (VOADs):

American Red Cross (ARC): ARC team in North Texas has completed damage assessment and in-person recovery services. Virtual caseworkers will continue assisting with client referrals, follow-up, and closing cases as needed.

STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
TDEM DRTF	DRTF HQ Staff	2		Assigned	R-SOC
Agrilife, TAMUS	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	R-SOC
Agrilife TAMUS	AgriLife Agency Admin	3		Available	Virtual
Agrilife, TAMUS	DAR Agents	4	2	Available	Eastland County

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
Agrilife, TAMUS	DAR Agents	7		Available	Statewide
Agrilife, TAMUS	AgriLife Extension Strike Team Members	4		Available	Merkel
Agrilife TAMUS	Agrilife Extension Strike Team Members	3		Available	Eastland County
TAMFS	Large Air Tanker (LAT)		2	Available	Abilene
TAMFS	Aerial Supervision Aircraft (AA)		1	Available	Abilene
TAMFS	Aerial Supervision Aircraft (ASM)		2	Available	Abilene
TAMFS	Lead Plane		1	Available	Abilene
TAMFS	Multi Mission Aircraft		1	Available	Abilene
TAMFS	Type I Helicopter		1	Available	Alice
TAMFS	Aerial Supervision Aircraft (AA)		1	Available	Alice
TAMFS	Single Engine Air Tanker (SEATs)		3	Available	Alice
TAMFS	Type 1 Helicopter		1	Available	Alpine
TAMFS	Aerial Supervision Aircraft (AA)		1	Available	Childress
TAMFS	Single Engine Air Tanker (SEATs)		3	Available	Childress
TAMFS	Aerial Supervision Aircraft (AA)		1	Available	Fredericksburg
TAMFS	Single Engine Air Tanker (SEATs)		3	Available	Fredericksburg
TAMFS	Type 1 Helicopter		1	Available	Hebbronville Airport
TAMFS	Type 3 Helicopter		1	Available	McGregor
TAMFS	Single Engine Air Tanker (Fire Boss)		3	Available	Mineral Wells

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
TAMFS	Aerial Supervision Aircraft (AA)		1	Available	San Angelo
TAMFS	Type I Helicopter		1	Available	San Angelo
TAMFS	Type 3 Helicopter		1	Available	Smithville
TAMFS	Type 1 Helicopter		1	Available	Temple Airport
TAMFS	TAMFS Taskforce	13 Taskforces		Available	Various
TAMFS	TAMFS Dozer Strike Team	2 STs		Available	McGregor
TAMFS	Dozer/Tractor Plow		23	Available	Various
TIFMAS	TIFMAS Strike Team	2 ST		Available	Nunn
TIFMAS	TIFMAS Strike Team	3 ST		Available	Das Goat
TIFMAS	TIFMAS Strike Team	1 ST		Available	Edinburg
TIFMAS	TIFMAS Strike Team	1 ST		Available	Bosque River
TIFMAS	TIFMAS Strike Team	1 ST		Assigned	Eastland Complex
TIFMAS	TIFMAS Strike Team ST	3 ST		Available	Ramsey
TIFMAS	TIFMAS Strike Team	1 ST		Available	Canadian River Bottom
TIFMAS	TIFMAS Strike Team	1 ST		Available	Big Spring
TIFMAS	TIFMAS Coordinators	2		Available	College Station & Merkel
TEEX/TX-TF1 & 2	ESF 9 SOC LNO	1		Assigned	R-SOC
TEEX/TX-PWRT	SOC Liaison	1	1	Assigned	R-SOC
TAHC	SOC Representative	1		Assigned	R-SOC
TAHC	Central Office Staff/Agency Admin.	4	0	Available	Virtual

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
TAHC	Regional Management	18	0	Available	All Regions
TAHC	Field Personnel	6		Assigned	All Regions
DSHS EMTF	SOC Liaison	1		Available	R-SOC
DSHS EMTF	Wildland Fire Pkg (2)	10		Released	Eastland Complex
DSHS EMTF	Wildland Paramedic Unit (1)	2		Released	Eastland Complex Fire
DSHS EMTF	Wildland Fire Pkg (1)	5		Activated	Canadian River Bottom Fire
DSHS EMTF	Rapid Extrication Module (REM)	1		Activated	Canadian River Bottom Fire
DSHS EMTF	Wildland Fire Pkg (1)	5		Activated	Borrega Fire
PUC	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	R-SOC
RRC	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	R-SOC
TCEQ	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	R-SOC
TCEQ	DDEOC Liaison	1		Assigned	Abilene
TDA	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	R-SOC
TxDOT	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	R-SOC
TxDOT	Fuel Support	8		Assigned	Kinney, Real and Hemphill Counties
TxDOT	Light Towers		2	Assigned	Eastland County
TXDPS	SOC Liaison	1	0	Assigned	R-SOC
TXDPS	Troopers	11	11	Assigned	Medina County
TXDPS	Sergeants	2	2	Assigned	Medina County
TXDPS	Troopers	6	6	Assigned	Eastland County
TMD	Rotary Wing (Medium MRP)	28	4	Assigned	Austin
TPWD	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	R-SOC

FINAL COMMENTS: The State Operations Center (SOC) remains at Level II (Escalated Response Conditions) for COVID-19 pandemic response with additional staffing for Wildfire Outbreak response and recovery. The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) continues to monitor these situations and will provide additional situation reports as needed.

The four levels of SOC activation are:

Level I	(Emergency Conditions)
Level II	(Escalated Response Conditions)
Level III	(Increased Readiness Conditions)
Level IV	(Normal Conditions)

This Situation Report can be found on the TDEM webpage at:
<https://tdem-web.webflow.io/response/state-operations-center#tab-2>

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